

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A fluorine-containing resin powder coating composition to be subjected to baking at 300C or more, in which the fluorine-containing resin composition for forming a coating film comprises a fluorine-containing resin, a thermal stabilizer and surface-treated rutile titanium oxide particles as a whitening agent, and said powder coating composition gives a baked coating film having a whiteness of 60 or more after baking at 300°C or more.

2. (original): The coating composition of Claim 1, wherein the surface-treated rutile titanium oxide particles are rutile titanium oxide surface-treated with aluminum oxide and/or silicon oxide.

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): The coating composition of Claim 3 Claim 1, wherein the fluorine-containing resin composition for forming a coating film comprises 0.3 to 3 parts by weight of the thermal stabilizer and 0.5 to 10 parts by weight of the surface-treated rutile titanium oxide particles based on 100 parts by weight of the fluorine-containing resin.

5-21. (canceled).

22. (previously presented): A coating film which is a fluorine-containing resin coating film obtained by applying the powder coating composition of Claim 1 and baking at 300°C or more and has a whiteness of 60 or more.

23. (canceled).

24. (previously presented): An article having the coating film of Claim 22 on a surface thereof.

25. (previously presented): A tank for medicines, foods and medical hygiene, which has the coating film of Claim 22 on an inner surface thereof.

26. (previously presented): A chemical equipment and parts thereof having the coating film of Claim 22 on an outer surface thereof.

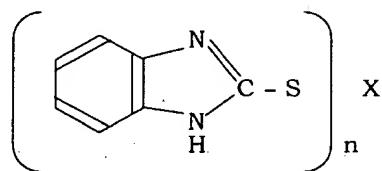
27. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 1, wherein the fluorine-containing resin is a melt-moldable perfluoro resin.

28. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 27, wherein the perfluoro resin is a copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene, perfluoro(alkyl vinyl ether) and/or hexafluoropropylene.

29. (currently amended): The coating composition of Claim 3 Claim 1, wherein the thermal stabilizer has a melting point of not less than 70°C and comprises an organosulfurous thermal stabilizer, amine thermal stabilizer and/or metal powder thermal stabilizer.

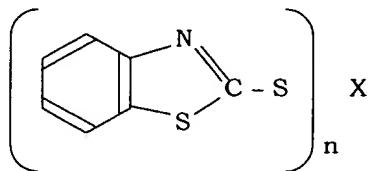
30. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 29, wherein the organosulfurous thermal stabilizer and amine thermal stabilizer are used together or the organosulfurous thermal stabilizer, amine thermal stabilizer and metal powder thermal stabilizer are used together.

31. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 29, wherein the organosulfurous thermal stabilizer is one or more of a benzimidazole mercaptan compound represented by the formula (I):



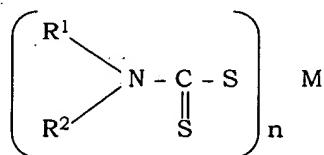
wherein X is H, Zn, Sn or Cd, n is an integer of 1 to 4,

a benzothiazole mercaptan compound represented by formula (II):

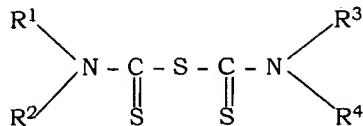


wherein X is H, Zn, Sn or Cd, n is an integer of 1 to 4,

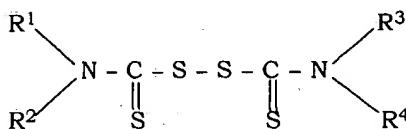
a thiocarbamic acid represented by the formula (III):



wherein R¹ and R² are an aryl group or alkyl group having 2 to 16 carbon atoms, M is Zn, Sn, Cd or Cu, n is an integer of 1 to 4, or a salt thereof, a thiuram monosulfide represented by the formula (IV):

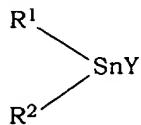


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are an aryl group or alkyl group having 2 to 16 carbon atoms, a thiuram disulfide represented by the formula (V):



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are an aryl group or alkyl group having 2 to 16 carbon atoms, and

an organotin mercaptide compound represented by the formula (VI):



wherein Y is a mercaptan residue, R^1 and R^2 are the same or different and each is an aryl group or alkyl group having 2 to 16 carbon atoms.

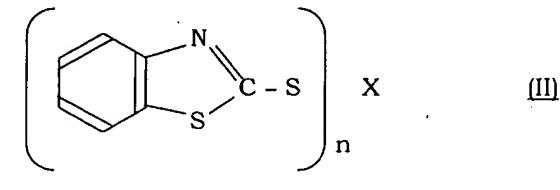
32. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 31, wherein the organosulfurous thermal stabilizer is a benzothiazole mercaptan compound represented by the formula (II).

33. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 29, wherein the amine thermal stabilizer is an aromatic amine thermal stabilizer having three or more benzene rings and having a melting point of not less than 80°C.

34. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 33, wherein the aromatic amine thermal stabilizer is 4,4-bis(α,α-dimethylbenzyl)diphenylamine.

35. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 29, wherein the metal powder thermal stabilizer is one or more of cobalt powder, iron powder, zinc powder, tin powder and copper powder.

36. (currently amended): The coating composition of ~~Claim 3~~ Claim 1, wherein the thermal stabilizer comprises ~~the~~ an organosulfurous thermal stabilizer represented by the formula (II) of ~~Claim 31~~ and the aromatic amine thermal stabilizer having three or more benzene rings and a melting point of not less than 80C:



wherein X is H, Zn, Sn or Cd, n is an integer of 1 to 4.

37. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 36, wherein the thermal stabilizer comprises a zinc salt of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole and 4,4-bis(α,α-dimethylbenzyl)diphenylamine.

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38. (previously presented): The coating composition of Claim 36, wherein the thermal stabilizer comprises a zinc salt of 2-mercaptopbenzothiazole and 4,4-bis(α,α-dimethylbenzyl)diphenylamine in a weight ratio of 50/50 to 99/1.